

nation spend more than 50 percent of their income on rent. Nationwide, there are 9 million extremely low-income households but only 6 million units renting at affordable prices, leaving a shortage of 3 million affordable housing units.

In my hometown of New York City, 28 percent of renters are paying more than half of their income for rent. Keeping the Starrett City development in Brooklyn affordable is critical. Starrett City is the Nation's largest government-subsidized rental housing complex. It was designed in the 1970s as a subsidized, middle-class co-operative under New York State's Mitchell-Lama program. It is home to 12,000 residents in nearly 6,000 housing units. Most of the residents of Starrett City live on annual gross incomes of about \$20,000 to \$40,000 and the average subsidized rent is \$200–\$400.

I, along with my colleague from New York, Representative EDOLPHUS TOWNS, requested that the House Financial Services Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity hold a field hearing in New York City following an attempt to sell Starrett City that jeopardized the complex's affordability. The hearing was held in July 2007 and investigated the impact of affordable housing sales on housing costs in New York City.

Mr. TOWNS' legislation before the House today will allow owners and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to convert the current subsidy contracts that are in place at Starrett City into a new, 20-year Section 8 contract. This will ensure that a new owner can secure the long-term financing necessary to keep Starrett City affordable and its tenants in their homes.

Without this legislation, Starrett City's owners would likely opt out of their Section 8 contract and convert Starrett City to market-rate housing, further contributing to the lack of affordable housing in New York City.

I thank my colleague, Mr. TOWNS and support his legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Wednesday, May 7, 2008.

Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 294.

PASS A CLEAN AND HONEST SUPPLEMENTAL

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, American men and women are on the front lines of the Global War on Terrorism defeating our enemies abroad so we do not have to face them here at home. Unfortunately, at home, Democrats are threatening to push through an emergency war supplemental spending bill, without committee consideration, that includes unrelated spending.

Funding for our troops should be priority number one. However, it is not the time nor the place to add additional spending on top of what our military has requested in an effort to push it through on the coattails of our bravest and brightest. If the majority wishes to increase spending on other programs unrelated to the Global War on Terrorism, then they should bring those requests up under regular order—not hidden in an emergency troop funding bill.

As Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen has made it clear, this supplement spending bill is vital to our security. Without passage of the supplemental, our soldiers will stop getting their paychecks and our ability to equip our troops will be undermined.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

IN HONOR OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SULLIVAN'S NATIONAL CENTER FOR HOSPITALITY STUDIES

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Sullivan University's National Center for Hospitality Studies, in Louisville, Kentucky.

Nearly four thousand students have graduated from NCHS and gone on to impact the culinary, travel, and hospitality fields. The impact of Sullivan's exceptional program can be felt throughout the nation, from Las Vegas to New Orleans and many lucky cities in between, but nowhere—I am pleased to say—has NCHS and its alumni had a greater influence than in my hometown of Louisville.

On any given weekend night, there are over 600 Sullivan students working in our community's hotels and restaurants. Alumni include many of our city's finest chefs and restaurateurs, who have helped ensure that Derby week, when our town becomes the nation's top tourist destination, visitors will leave raving about more than just horse races.

But while I certainly recommend it, one does not need to come to Louisville to recognize the excellence of the program. President and CEO A.R. Sullivan has assembled an award winning faculty, including program director Chef Tom Hickey, a Culinary Olympics medal winner who has overseen culinary operations for presidential inaugurations; catering department chair chef Kimberly Jones, who has developed nationally renowned recipes and catered some of the world's highest profile events; chef John Castro, our local celebrity chef who bested the competition on the TV Food Network's Throw Down with Bobby Flay and has been featured on the Travel Channel; and baking and pastry department chef, the nationally ranked Derek Spendlove, who won a gold medal in the 1988 Culinary Olympics.

That faculty and leadership has helped Sullivan's Culinary Competition team win 291 medals, including Southeast Regional Pastry Chef of the Year in 2008 and Southeast Regional Champions in 2001, 2004 and 2005. The school was the first culinary school in America to be invited to cook at New York's prestigious James Beard House.

The alumni list of four-star chefs has the length of a school celebrating its centennial. Still for all that has been accomplished through NCHS in a quarter century, the promise for the future is equally bright. The program now builds on a proud tradition where students and alumni never cease to exceed our highest expectations.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Sullivan University's National Center for Hospitality Studies on the last twenty five years of distinction and to wish the center the best as it continues to satisfy our taste for excellence in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING NANCY
BRINKER, WHITE HOUSE CHIEF
OF PROTOCOL, ON HER BEING
NAMED ONE OF THE 100 MOST
INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THE
WORLD

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nancy Brinker for the recognition she has received from Time Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World.

Nancy grew up in my hometown of Peoria, Illinois, and all of us are extremely proud of her many accomplishments in diplomacy and in the health care arena.

As White House Chief of Protocol and previously as President Bush's Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary, Nancy has fostered meaningful, positive relationships for the United States around the world and advanced a broad range of U.S. security and economic interests.

But Peorians know her best for her role as founder of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure after promising her sister, Susan, that she would fight to end breast cancer forever. Named after Susan, who died from breast cancer in 1980, the foundation is now recognized as the Nation's leading catalyst in the fight against breast cancer. It all began with a race in Dallas, followed by one in Peoria, and now there are over 112 races with over a million participants. Research is the key to finding a cure for this disease, and with the financial assistance of the Susan G. Komen Foundation, much progress has been made. The success of this foundation and its mission is known throughout the world.

In the words of Cokie Roberts' tribute in the Times article, "When Nancy Brinker meets up with her sister, Susan G. Komen, on the other side of the pearly gates, she will be able to say, 'I did what you asked.' And, in the process, she will have helped millions who suffer from this dreaded disease.